

Refugee Health Screening Program

Program Operating Plan	
Program or Division Name	Refugee Health Screening Program (RHSP)
Bureau	Communicable Disease Control
Associateship	Disease Control and Prevention
Program Purpose	To bring newly arrived official refugees and other program-eligible legal immigrants into the public health system for health assessments and referral for conditions of public health importance, or which would impede the refugees' resettlement process.
Major Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receive notifications of arrival/certification and forward to appropriate local RHSPs or other local/regional public health programs.• Maintain database of eligible arrivals with summary information of outcomes of outreach and health assessment efforts and general findings for reporting and program monitoring.• Administer federal funds to support local RHSPs in principal resettlement areas through maintenance and monitoring of local health department contracts.• Provide interpreter and interpreter utilization training; and support local/regional interpreter resources projects to ensure current and past program clients' access to culturally and linguistically appropriate health and mental health care and social services.• Provide cross-cultural and other information, technical assistance, and training to providers of services to refugees and other eligible program clients.
Population Served	Newly arrived official refugees, Amerasian-Americans, eligible Cuban and Haitian entrants/parolees, asylees (from date granted asylum), and USDHHS/ORR-designated Victims of Severe Forms of Trafficking (eligibility set by USDHHS/Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)).
Contact Information	Sam Householder, Jr. MPH, Program Administrator Phone: 512.458.7494; Fax: 512.458.7527 sam.householder@tdh.state.tx.us Location: General Building, Room G-308 Mailing address: 1100 West 49 th Street, Austin, Texas 78756

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Program Objectives	
Fiscal Year 2003 Objectives	TDH-RHSP will provide health assessments to 90% of program-eligible arrivals to Texas
Services Provided/Activities	<p>Health Care Safety Net Services</p> <p>Purchase, procure, and provide health care to individuals in need of medical services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administers federal funds to support to local health department efforts to provide health assessments, health education, immunizations, limited treatments, and/or appropriate public health or primary care referrals for identified problems; with limited follow-up to document completed referrals. (See Population Served for target population). <p>Create sustainability of the services in local communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides interpreter and interpreter utilization training; and administers TDHS-RHSP interagency funds to support local/regional interpreter resources projects (with goal of self-sustainability) to ensure program clients' access to culturally and linguistically appropriate health and mental health care, and social services. <p>Essential Public Health Services (EPHS)</p> <p>No. 1 Monitor the health status of individuals in the community to identify community health problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receives notifications of overseas visa medical exams of refugees, enters into database, and updates with results of Refugee Health Assessment Forms (RHAFs) from local programs.• Provides summary data to local programs and national agencies and other organizations.• Receives refugee health assessment reports (RHAFs) from local programs and summarizes data as needed/requested.• Utilizes summary data and local program site visits to monitor local program performance and activities. <p>No. 2 Diagnosis and investigate community health problems and community health hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notifies local health departments of members of high-risk populations arriving in their areas. <p>No. 3 Inform, educate, and empower the community with respect to health issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Informs refugees of their health status and provide treatment

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and preventive health information and information about accessing health services.

- Provides and/or responds to requests for information on providing linguistically and culturally appropriate health services.
- Identifies sources for, develops, and/or adapts culturally and linguistically appropriate health service delivery and health education materials.

No. 4 Mobilize community partnerships in identifying and solving community health problems.

- Plans, assists with, and/or coordinates state and/or national refugee conferences and/or meetings.
- Collaborates and coordinates with refugee health coordinators (ARHC) in other states

No. 5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community efforts to improve health.

- Formulates procedures for local programs to collaborate locally to locate, bring in refugees for health assessments, provide education, and make, facilitate and/or ensure, and document completed referrals.

No. 7 Link individuals who have a need for community and personal health services to appropriate community and private providers.

- Utilizes available federal funds to support, provide guidance and technical assistance to, and monitor performance of local refugee health screening programs.
- Attends and presents at TDHS-Office of Immigration & refugee Affairs quarterly regional refugee services provider meetings. Encourages local coordination with voluntary agencies resettling refugees.

No. 8 Ensure a competent workforce for the provision of essential public health services.

- Develops and/or adapts curricula for interpreter and interpreter utilization training.
- Provides interpreter and/or interpreter utilization training.
- Establishes refugee-language interpreter training and interpreter pool resources in main resettlement areas.

No. 9 Research new insights and innovative solutions to community health problems.

- Utilizes available federal funds to support special innovative projects for special refugee populations, access to care, mental health, case management, etc.

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Program Evaluation	Performance Measures
Performance Measures: State	N/A
Performance Measures: Federal	USDHHS-Office of Refugee Resettlement - (through TDHS Office of Immigration and Refugee Affairs)
Mandate/authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Statutory Authority - SB 379, 72nd Legislature, Regular Session, 1991, and HB 1, 72nd Legislature, First Called Session, 1991 (Office of the Governor and TDHS cooperative agreement to administer federal refugee funds).• Federal Statutory Authority - Refugee Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-212, et. seq.
Origins of program (if no mandate)	N/A
Program Rules	Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 97, Communicable Disease Control.
Advisory Committee or Regulatory Board	N/A